

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 00349 110758Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8373

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (BHUTTO, Z.A.)

SUBJECT: BEGUM BHUTTO'S SCHEDULE

REF: A. DEPARTMENT 2098

B. ISLAMABAD 101

1. I HAVE NOW TALKED TO BEGUM BHUTTO ABOUT HER WISHES DURING FREE TIME IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK CITY. IT BECAME APPARENT IN TALKING TO HER THAT SHE IS NOT WELL ENOUGH ACQUAINTED WITH EITHER CITY TO HAVE SUGGESTIONS OF HER OWN. ONE THING, HOWEVER, DID COME THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR. HER HUSBAND WILL NOT ALLOW ANY "SHOPPING" AS HE WOULD BE AFRAID OF WORD GETTING BACK HERE AND BEING MISUNDERSTOOD (TOO BAD AS SHE IS IN FACT A MODEST SPENDER).

2. I MENTIONED THE HIRSHHORN OR OTHER GALLERIES AND SHE SAID THAT WOULD BE NICE. I ASKED HER IF SHE HAD EVER BEEN TO THE SMITHSONIAN AND SHE ANSWERED IN THE NEGATIVE, ASKING WHAT IT WAS LIKE. SHE REACTED POSITIVELY TO SEEING THINGS LIKE DRESSES OF FORMER PRESIDENTS, ETC.

3. I ASKED IF SHE WANTED HER TIME FULLY SCHEDULED OR, SAY, HALF SCHEDULED. SHE THOUGHT THE LATTER WOULD BE ABOUT RIGHT, SAYING THAT SHE MIGHT HAVE ONE THING NO EARLIER THAN 10 OR 10:30 IN THE MORNING AND PERHAPS ONE

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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 00349 110758Z

IN THE AFTERNOON. SHE SAID SHE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE

SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PAK AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON
AND ME IN ORDER TO MAKE UP HER MIND.

4. I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA FOR US TO SEEK TO
ARRANGE IN EITHER WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK AN EVENT WHICH
COULD PRODUCE GOOD PRESS PLAY FOR BEGUM BHUTTO IN PAKISTAN,
AND, HOPEFULLY, IN US AS WELL. AS YOU KNOW, SHE HAS
DEVELOPED A CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN BOTH POPULATION
PLANNING AND HEALTH FIELDS. (SHE WAS CO-CHAIRMAN OF PAK
DELEGATION TO LAST YEAR'S BUCHAREST WORLD POPULATION
CONFERENCE AND IS CHAIRMAN OF PAK RED CRESCENT.) DEPART-
MENT WILL BE IN BETTER POSITION THAN WE ARE HERE TO MAKE
CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS ALONG THESE LINES, BUT MIGHT
CONSIDER SUGGESTION OF CONSUL GENERAL SPENGLER (FORMER
DEPUTY IN S/PM) THAT SHE VISIT MODEL FAMILY PLANNING
CLINIC, PART OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON FAMILY
PLANNING ASSOCIATION.

5. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ON THE LESS SUBSTANTIVE SIDE WE
NEED THE ADVICE OF PROTOCOL WHO WOULD KNOW BEST WHAT
ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE IN VIEW OF THEIR EXPERIENCE
WITH THIS SORT OF THING FOR BOTH WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK.
FROM HER SIDE IT LOOKS LIKE THERE WOULD BE NO MORE THAN
ONE OR TWO THAT MIGHT ACCOMPANY HER, AND THESE WOULD NOT
STRICTLY SPEAKING BE HIGH ENOUGH RANKING TO BE PART OF
THE OFFICIAL PARTY. PROTOCOL SHOULD KNOW THAT SHE IS A
HIGHLY INTELLIGENT WOMAN WITH A PLEASANT PERSONALITY,
WHO IS NOT HARD TO PLEASE BUT INSTEAD WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY ARRANGEMENTS WE CAN MAKE. WE DO KNOW THAT IN NEW
YORK BOTH SHE AND THE PM WOULD ENJOY SEEING A GOOD PLAY,
PROBABLY SOMETHING NOT TOO HEAVY; IF A GOOD OPERA WERE ON
THAT WOULD BE ANOTHER POSSIBILITY, THOUGH LESS ATTRACTIVE
THAN THE THEATER. VISITS TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF
ART AND TO LINCOLN CENTER ALSO STRIKE US AS OUTINGS SHE
MIGHT WELCOME.

6. IF CONVENIENT TO DO SO, YOU MAY WANT TO GIVE US
SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS TO CHECK OUT WITH HER BEFORE I
LEAVE. ALTERNATIVELY, THEY COULD BE FORWARDED HERE AFTER
MY ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON AS THIS WOULD PROBABLY LEAVE
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PAGE 03 ISLAMA 00349 110758Z

ENOUGH TIME TO GET THINGS WORKED OUT.
BYROADE

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